



NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**PALMER RESIDENT SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR CHILD
PORNOGRAPHY CONVICTIONS**

Anchorage, AK – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced today, April 18, 2008, that Arlo E. Erickson, age 70, a resident of Palmer, Alaska, was sentenced in federal prison as a result of his convictions for possessing and distributing child pornography. The sentence handed down today in federal court in Anchorage consisted of a sentence of twenty years for Erickson's conviction of four counts of distribution of child pornography and ten years in prison for two counts of possession of child pornography consecutive to the distribution counts, for a total sentence of 30 years. In addition, Erickson was ordered to pay a fine of \$125,000, and was placed upon supervised release after his release from prison for the rest of his life.

United States District Court Judge Timothy M. Burgess imposed the sentence on Erickson of Palmer, Alaska.

According to information presented to the court by Assistant United States Attorneys Daniel R. Cooper, Jr. and Joseph W. Bottini, Erickson was involved in distribution of child pornography and collected child pornography over a number of years, treating the images as "trading cards." Such repeated distribution harms each child anew, subjecting the child to shame, humiliation and embarrassment each and every time the image is viewed.

Prior to imposing sentence, Judge Burgess stated that he took into consideration the seriousness of the offense, the need to protect society from Erickson, and the need to deter others in the distribution and possession of child pornography in imposing this sentence.

Mr. Cohen commended the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Investigators from the Wasilla Police Department for the investigation leading to the successful prosecution of Erickson.

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